

THE CERNA FAMILY

MISSIONARIES IN EL SALVADOR

August 2020

Dear praying friends:

Although quarantine continues (longer than we thought) in El Salvador, the Lord always strengthens and encourages us with what He is doing. We praise God for the doors that He has opened to witness to people, to have services online, and to minister to our church people.

While the dates of reopening for churches and businesses have been pushed back, we continue to look for opportunities to witness. We are still able to hand out tracts and witness to people as we run essential errands. It seems as if God is softening people's hearts. It wouldn't surprise us if God eventually opens a huge door. Thank you for your continued prayers on this front.

Herlinda received Jesus as her Savior, in our church, a few years ago. Soon after, her two sons followed her decision. This was not an easy decision for any of them. This is because there is a heavy Catholic influence in their family. The father (José) is Catholic, and for a number of years, he forbade the mother and sons to attend church. After meeting us, the father changed his mind and allowed his family to attend our church. He has attended church on a few special occasions. While he tolerates his family to be Christians, he has stated that he does not want anything to do with Christianity. We have been praying for his salvation for years.

This father (José) contracted Coronavirus at work. He works for the government as a security guard. Since he has been sick, we have had the opportunity to minister to his family. We are in contact through messages, and we have dropped off groceries and medicine in a safe way. José sent us a message through his son that he is very grateful for what we have done to help in this difficult time. Of course, our main concern is for his spiritual life. We know that God can use this time to change his heart. Please pray for José, Herlinda, and their sons Douglas and David. Please pray that Herlinda and her sons stay healthy, doing their best to not spread the disease. Most importantly, please pray for the salvation of José.

Instead of seeing the obstacles of this pandemic, we are actively looking for the door God will open with regard to buying a church property. It looks like the impact of the pandemic on the economy will make it much easier for us to buy! We are praying that we can be in the right place at the right time to make an offer. Also, please pray that once we are able to have normal church services, that we can do them in a new church property.

Our family is going into our sixth month of quarantine. While this has not entirely been a mandatory quarantine, all schools, churches and most businesses are still closed. Our kids feel restless some days, but for the most part, they have done very well. We feel that slowing life down has really given us a chance to learn more about our kids. We understand their personalities even better. We see their strengths, and we are discerning how to better help them in their weaknesses. For this, we are thankful for the quarantine. We have grown as a family. We thank God for our kids and ask you to please pray for us as we teach them and guide them. Thank you so much for your faithful prayers and financial support.

The Cernas

Field Address:
Cesar Cerna
Apartado 11
Santa Ana, El Salvador

Sending Church:
Greater Portland Baptist Church
17800 SE Main St.
Portland, OR 97233
Phone: (503) 761-1136



Baptist international Missions Inc.
P.O. Box 9
Harrison, TN 37341
Phone: (423) 344- 5050
www.bimi.org